EXHIBIT A

LAWRENCE A. HAMERMESH Widener University School of Law 4601 Concord Pike, P.O. Box 7474 Wilmington, Delaware 19803-0474 Phone: (302) 477-2132

Fax: (302) 477-2257 E-mail: Lawrence.A Hamermesh@law.widener.edu

PERSONAL DATA:

Home address:

126 Hitching Post Drive Wilmington, Delaware 19803 Date of birth: June 14, 1952

Married: August 7, 1983, to Marion Yager Hamermesh Children: Simon E., born 1984; Naomi Kate, born 1987

EDUCATION AND CAREER HISTORY:

Admitted to the Delaware Bar, 1976; United States Supreme Court, 1999

Ruby R. Vale Professor of Corporate and Business Law, Widener University School of Law

- 1994-present, teaching business organizations, corporate finance, securities regulation. mergers and acquisitions, equity/equitable remedies
 - Director, Widener Law School Institute of Delaware Corporate Law
 - Adviser, Delaware Journal of Corporate Law

Visiting Professor, University of Michigan Law School, Winter 2002 Visiting Professor, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Spring 2004

Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell, Wilmington, Delaware

- Associate, 1976-1984
- Partner, 1985-1994

Yale Law School

- J.D., 1976
- Barristers' Union (trial practice) participant
- Yale Legislative Services

Haverford College

- B:A., 1973
- National Merit Scholar
- Magna cum laude, political science
- Phi Beta Kappa
- 1971-1972, study at the University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland

Other Professional Qualifications and Background Information:

Member, American Law Institute (elected 1999)

Member, Council of the Corporation Law Section of the Delaware State Bar Association,

1995 to present; Vice Chair, 2000-2002; Chair, 2002-2004

Member, Corporate Laws Committee, American Bar Association Business Law Section, 2001-

Reporter, ABA Task Force on Professional Responsibility (2002-2003)

2004 Daniel L Herrmann Professional Conduct Award, Delaware State Bar Association

Secretary, Delaware Board of Bar Examiners, 1983-1987 Member, Board of Editors, Bank and Corporate Governance Law Reporter Member, Board of Editorial Advisers, Delaware Law Weekly

Treasurer, Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc., 1991-2000 Chairman, Lawyer Referral Service Committee of the Delaware State Bar Association, 1993-1998, 2001-

Lecturer, University of Pennsylvania Law School, mergers and acquisitions, 1991-1993

Areas of Private Legal Practice

interpretation of and opinions concerning the Delaware Corporate counseling: General Corporation Law relating to mergers, dividends, meetings of stockholders, stock issuances, rights of preferred stockholders, corporate powers and authority, dissenters' rights, amendments to the certificate of incorporation and other corporate issues

Corporate litigation: primarily in the Delaware Supreme Court and Chancery Court

- defense of stockholder derivative and class actions based on alleged breaches of director and controlling stockholder fiduciary duties
- (ii) prosecution and defense of corporate stock valuation (dissenters' rights) litigation (for Salomon Brothers Inc. Bear Steams & Co., Getty Oil Co., among others)

(iii) takeover-related litigation (preliminary injunction and other challenges to defensive actions allegedly in violation of fiduciary duties, stockholder election review proceedings; actions claiming violation of disclosure obligations under the federal securities laws)

Participated in such litigation as Delaware counsel to:

- Viacom, Inc. (in connection with merger with Paramount Communications. Inc.)
- Time, Incorporated (in connection with tender offer by Paramount Communications, Inc.)
- Stanley Stahl (in connection with the acquisition of Apple Bancorp, Inc.)
- Revion, Inc. (in connection with the acquisition by Pantry Pride, Inc.)
- Phillips Petroleum Co. (in connection with the tender offer by Mesa

Petroleum Co.)

Consolidated Gold Fields (in connection with the tender offer by Ivanhoe Partners for Newmont Mining Corp.)

PUBLISHED WRITINGS (partial list)

Corporate Officers and the Business Judgment Rule: A Reply to Professor Johnson, 60 Business Lawyer [] (May 2005) (with A. Gilchrist Sparks III)

Premiums in Stock for Stock Mergers and Some Consequences in the Law of Director Fiduciary Duties, 152 University of Pennsylvania Law Review 881 (2003)

The ABA Task Force on Professional Responsibility and the 2003 Changes to the Model Rules of Professional Conduct, 17 Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics 35 (2003)

Corporate Responsibility in Real Time: The Work (So Far) of the ABA Task Force on Corporate Responsibility, 21 Delaware Lawyer 18 (Spring 2003)

A Kinder, Gentler Critique of Van Gorkom and its Less Celebrated Legacies, 96 Northwestern Law Review 595 (2002)

Why I Do Not Teach Van Gorkom, 34 Georgia Law Review 477 (2000)

Corporate Democracy and Stockholder-Adopted By-Laws: Taking Back the Street?, 73 Tulane Law Review 409 (December 1998)

Recipient of Volume 73 John Minor Wisdom Award for Academic Excellence in Legal Scholarship; selected as one of the ten best corporate and securities articles of 1999, 41 Corporate Practice Commentator 1453-1454

Calling Off the Lynch Mob: The Corporate Director's Fiduciary Disclosure Duty, 49 Vanderbilt Law Review 1087 (October 1996)

Common Law Duties of Non-Director Corporate Officers (with A Gilchrist Sparks, III), 48 BUS. LAWYER 215 (1992)

"Appraisal Rights," chapter 36 of Drexler, Black and Sparks, DELAWARE CORPORATION LAW AND PRACTICE (Matthew Bender 1986)

"Defensive Techniques In Proxy Contests," Review of Securities & Commodities Regulation, May 23, 1990

"The Director as Auctioneer - A Role of Choice, Not a Rule of Law," Directors and Boards (Winter 1987)

"The Reliance on Counsel Defense," Review of Securities and Commodities Regulation, December 18, 1985

"Going Private Mergers After UOP," Review of Securities and Commodities Regulation, March 23, 1983

Recent Continuing Legal Education Programs (accompanying written materials in parentheses):

> Third Circuit Judicial Conference, Nov. 2003 (Philadelphia). The Current Crisis in Corporate Governance

> Federalist Society, 7th Annual Corporate Governance Conference. Sep. 24, 2003 (New York), Director Independence

> ABA Section of Business Law, May 2003 (Washington, D.C.), Sarbanes-Oxley Revolution in Disclosure and Corporate Governance, New Corporate Governance Regime

> Glasser LegalWorks 21st Annual Institute on Federal Securities, Feb. 2003 (Miami)

> Practising Law Institute, The New Disclosure & Corporate Governance Regime (Oct. 2002) (Lawyer Responsibilities in the New Disclosure & Corporate Governance Regime)

> Valuation Practice in Delaware, Seminar on Current Delaware Corporate Litigation and Transactional Problems, 2002, New York, New York ("Stand Clear of the Closing Doors: Obstacles to Judicial Valuation Under Delaware Law")

> 13th Annual Tulane Corporate Law Institute, Corporate Law Developments, 2001 ("Recent Delaware Corporate Law Cases," with David C. McBride and Christian Douglas Wright)

> Stockholder-Adopted By-Laws After Fleming, Committee Forum of the Committee on Business and Corporate Litigation, Business Law Section, American Bar Association, Atlanta, Georgia (moderator and program chair)

> The Next Century of Corporate Law: A Symposium on the Centennial of the Delaware General Corporation Law, Wilmington, Delaware 1999

EXPERT WITNESS AND AMICUS CURIAE

In re Request of the Governor, 722 A.2d 307 (Del. 1998) (appointed by the Court pro bono publico to advocate on appointments clause of the State Constitution)

Goodrich v. E.F. Hutton Group, Inc., 681 A.2d 1039 (Del. 1996) (appointed by the Court to advocate on class action attorneys' fee award)

California Public Employees Retirement System v. Felzen, et al., 119 S.Ct. 720, 142 L.Ed.2d 766 (1999) (amicus curiae in support of petitioner on issue of appellate standing in stockholder derivative actions)

Worldspan, L.P. v. Abacus Distribution Systems Pte Ltd, et al., International Chamber of Commerce, International Court of Arbitration Case No. 9833/FMS (expert witness on fiduciary responsibilities of partners in a Delaware limited partnership)

AMP Inc. v. Allied Signal, Inc., C.A. Nos. 98-4405, 98-4053, 98-4109 (E.D.Pa. 1998) (expert witness on fiduciary responsibilities under Delaware law of bidder officers and directors as directors of target corporation)

Onti, Inc. v. Integra Bank, 751 A.2d 904, 931-32 (Del. Ch. 1999) (expert witness on valuation of contingent claims including shareholder derivative claims)

In the Matter of Banc of America Capital Management, LLC, et al. and In the Matter of Columbia Management Advisors, Inc. (Securities and Exchange Commission, 2005) (appointment as independent distribution consultant in connection with mutual fund settlements)

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

ACLU Delaware, Inc., director (President, 1996-2003); representative to the National Board of Directors 2004 --

Wilmington Community Orchestra, violin